* Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counseling and testing services, Prevention to Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT), Information Education and Communication (IEC) & awareness building among adolescents and sensitization for the AIDS Vaccine Initiative.

* Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.

* Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.

* Building technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through Surveillance, Training, Monitoring and Evaluation, Technical resource groups, operational research and Programme management.

DM (Rheumatology) Programme at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences

2074. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received by Government from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for granting permission to start DM (Rheumatology) Programme in the Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad seeking permission to start DM(Rheumatology) Course at the Institute. The proposal has been forwarded to Medical Council of India for evaluation.

The clearance of the proposal by the Government would depend on availability of infrastructural facilities in the Institute for starting of the said course and recommendations of the MCI thereon.

Availability of Nurses

2075. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many institutes in Bangalore and elsewhere are training nurses for exclusive employment in USA;

(b) whether the country is self-sufficient in its requirement of trained nurses for hospitals, health centres etc.; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking any steps to utilize the services of trained nurses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) There are many private institutions in the country including Bangalore offering training in nursing as per the norms of Indian Nursing Council, but there is no information about training of nurses in Bangalore or elsewhere exclusively for employment in USA. There are adequate numbers of nursing educational institutions in the country producing about 25000-30000 nurses every year and there is no shortage of trained nurses. Government is also supporting States for establishing new schools and for upgradation of existing nursing educational institutions.

Failure of sterilization operations

2076. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many women in Orissa and other parts of